

One month long off- Campus Capacity Development Training of Women Groups on Weaving and Mending of Drag net and cast net organized at Bagbari Village, Bamutia, West Tripura by the College of Fisheries, Central Agricultural University (Imphal)

Two nos. of off- campus skill development training on “weaving & mending of fishing nets” were organised by the College of Fisheries during 23.02.2016 to 30.03.2016 by way of involving 35 nos. of farm women (including 40% ST) representing three newly constituted women groups namely Pohar, Twisa and Ashirbad of the college adopted village of Bagbari. The basic purpose of the courses was to link the women led groups with viable income generating options. The programme was conducted by way of engaging skilled local artisans as the trainers.

Dr. Pramod Kumar Pandey, Dean, College of Fisheries presided over the inaugural function of the programme, which was well attended by 70 local residents including 50 farm women, identified trainers as well as all the team members of the Village Adoption Programme of the College and the PG students of the Department of Extension & Social Sciences. Mr. Sujit Nama, the local Upa-Pradhan graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The Inaugural programme was succeeded by a farmer-scientist interface on the topical issues.

During the course of one month long training, the participants were provided with the opportunity for practice learning under the close supervision and guidance of the trainers on regular basis. To ensure regular attendance by all the women trainees without compromising with their respective family responsibilities, a consensus based daily schedule of training was fixed from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Further, base upon the purpose to inculcate the skill of mending and weaving of both drag net as well as cast net, the participants were segregated into two groups with those specific assignments. The trainees were also allowed to take their respective materials to their home for utilising their leisure time in practicing the skills even at back home situations.

The valedictory function of the trainings programme was organized on 30.03.2016 at the College of Fisheries, wherein Prof. Atanu Sarkar, HoD, Deptt. of Extension and Social Science welcomed the assembly, Dr. Biswarup Saha, Assiatant Professor, Deptt. of Extension and Social Sciences and Co-ordinator of the course presented a brief report on the month long activities and Prof. Ratan Kumar Saha, HOD, Deptt. of Aquatic Health and Environment delivered the presidential address. While addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest of the function Mr. Dilip Das, Sabhadhipati of West Tripura district offered his note of appreciation to the College and its team of scientists associated with this kind of novel training programme and assured all possible assistance from the Zilla Parisad to extend its due support to the newly constituted women led groups in obtaining the requisite gradation so as to qualify for bank support in one hand and selling of their products through the platform like SARAS *mela* etc. on the other. Then certificate of participation was distributed to all the successful trainees by the dignitaries on dais.
